

CLAIMS

I hereby claim:

1. A method of playing a game comprising the steps of:
 - a) providing a field including a central playing area, a pair of end zones at opposite ends of the central playing area and a pair of basketball goals positioned in the end zones;
 - 5 b) allowing the offensive team in a football mode to attempt to move the ball across the field into one of the end zones and score points according to American football rules while the defensive team attempts to prevent the offensive team from doing so; and
 - 10 c) allowing the offensive team in a basketball mode to attempt to make a basketball goal against the defensive team under conventional basketball rules after moving the ball into the one of the end zones.
2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of allowing the offensive team to attempt to inbound the ball onto the playing field against the defensive team prior to attempting to move the ball into the one of the end zones.
3. The method of claim 2 wherein the step of allowing the offensive team to inbound the ball comprises:
 - a) placing a ball at a baseline of the field opposite the one of the end zones; and
 - 5 b) allowing a first offensive player on the base line to attempt to throw the ball to a second offensive player on the field.
4. The method of claim 3 further comprising the step of allowing the second offensive player to run with, dribble or pass the ball to another offensive player after receiving the ball from the first offensive player.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of allowing the offensive team to attempt to move the ball into one of the end zones comprises:
- a) providing the offensive team with five downs to move the ball into one of the end zones; and
 - 5 b) enabling the offensive team to run or throw the ball on each down to attempt to move the ball into the one of the end zones.
6. The method of claim 5 wherein the points awarded to the offensive team for moving the ball into the one of the end zones are dependent upon the number of downs required to move the ball into the one of the end zones.
7. The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of awarding points to the defensive team if the offensive team does not move the ball into one of the end zones after all of the five downs.
8. The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of placing the ball on a safety line generally opposite the one of the end zones prior to providing the offensive team with the five downs.
9. The method of claim 5 further comprising the steps of:
- a) calling a penalty on the offensive team or the defensive team during play in football mode; and
 - 5 b) awarding a number of foul shots to be taken at the end of a playing period to the non-penalized team.
10. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of allowing the offensive team to attempt to make a basketball goal comprises:
- a) enabling the offensive team to dribble and pass the ball between offensive team players; and
 - 5 b) enabling the offensive team players to shoot the ball at one of the pair of basketball goals located in the one of the end zones.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein the one of the end zones is separated into different scoring areas and the points awarded to the offensive team for making the basketball goal vary upon the particular scoring area from which the shot was attempted by the offensive team.

12. The method of claim 10 further comprising the step of switching the mode of play from basketball mode to football mode immediately after the shot is attempted by the offensive team.

13. The method of claim 12 further comprising the step of switching from football mode back to basketball mode if a missed shot is controlled by the offensive team.

14. The method of claim 10 further comprising the steps of:

- a) calling a foul on either the offensive team or the defensive team after enabling the offensive team to dribble or pass the ball; and
- b) enabling the team that was fouled to pass and shoot the ball to attempt a foul shot.

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15. The method of claim 14 further comprising the step of enabling the offensive team to continue playing in basketball mode after the foul shot is attempted.

16. A playing field used to play a combination football/basketball game, the playing field comprising:

- a) a generally flat surface formed of a relatively rigid material;
- b) a grid laid out on the flat surface and including a pair of opposed side lines joined at adjacent ends by a pair of opposed base lines, a pair of goal lines extending between the pair of side lines and spaced from the pair of base lines, and
- c) a pair of basketball goals positioned generally above the base lines by a support member.

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17. The playing field of claim 16 further comprising at least one semi-circular line extending from each of the pairs of base lines towards the adjacent goal lines and concentric with the adjacent basketball goal.

18. The playing field of claim 16 further comprising a pair of safety lines extending between the pair of side lines and disposed between the goal lines and the adjacent base lines.

19. The playing field of claim 16 wherein each of the support members is connected to the flat surface and spaced from the grid.

20. The playing field of claim 16 wherein the field is located outdoors.

21. The playing field of claim 16 wherein the field is located indoors.